

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2016 9:53 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony
Attachments: 20160509215232_5.10.Testimony.Budget.Committee.docx

~~Speaker Registration~~/Testimony

All fields marked "(*)" are required and must be completed in order for this form to be valid.
Note: Registrations are not accepted prior to the agendas being posted.

Name(*) Vicky Holt Takamine
Phone (*) 808-754-2301
Email (*) vtakamine@gmail.com
Meeting Date (*) 2016-05-10
Council/PH Committee (*) Budget
Agenda Item (*) Bill 14 (2016) CD 2
Your position on the matter (*) Support
Representing (*) Organization
Organization PA'I Foundation
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? (*) Yes
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment 20160509215232_5.10.Testimony.Budget.Committee.docx
Accept Terms and Conditions (*) 1

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK
C & C OF HONOLULU
2016 MAY 10 AM 7:57

Chair Ann Kobayashi
Members of the Budget Committee of the Honolulu City Council

May 10, 2016

Aloha Chair Kobayashi and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Bill 14, CD2, which will provide support for the organizing and planning for the Festival of Pacific Arts in 2020 and funding for the Kaka'ako Art Gallery and Performing Arts Center which is an integral part of the Ola Ka 'Ilima Artspace affordable housing project for artists. I am Vicky Holt Takamine, administrator for the Hawaiian Arts Administration and the executive director of PA'I Foundation. I am submitting support testimony on behalf of both organizations.

The Festival of the Pacific Arts has been held every four years since 1972, and brings together artists and cultural practitioners from around the Pacific region for two weeks of festivity. It is recognized as a major regional cultural event, and is the largest gathering in which Pacific peoples unite to enhance their respect and appreciation of one another. For these two weeks in June, 2020 Hawai'i will be the focus of the entire world. We expect national and international media will be here to cover the Festival. It is of the magnitude of the World's Fair and/or the Olympics of Pacific Island culture and arts.

More than 2,700 performing artists and cultural practitioners from 26 Pacific Island nations will come to Hawai'i. It is expected that there will be heads of state that will accompany some of their delegations.

Organizing for a major festival as this will take years of planning and fundraising. The Native Hawaiian community has taken on the kuleana of beginning to organize and plan for the festival. We have been waiting for the opportunity to host this prestigious festival and have reached out to individuals and organizations who have organized under the Hawaiian Arts Administration (HAA). Board members include myself, Vicky Holt Takamine, executive director of PA'I Foundation, nā kumu hula Mapuana de Silva, Robert Cazimero, Michael Pili Pang, Aaron Sala, Monte Mcomber, Kaleo Manuel. We have reached out to the Kamehameha Schools, Office of Hawaiian Affairs and other Native Hawaiian organizations for support and commitments to help plan, fundraise and implement the festival.

The City and County of Honolulu will serve as the host for the festival with events and activities held in every moku on O'ahu. The Kamehameha Day Commission has already committed to hosting the Parade of Pacific Island Nations that will end at the Waikiki Shell with the opening ceremonies. We expect that the Polynesian Voyaging Society will welcome the navigators and voyaging canoes from around the Pacific at Kualoa. An arts festival is planned for Waimea Valley and we hope that a Pacific Island Village where cultural demonstrations, performances and arts market

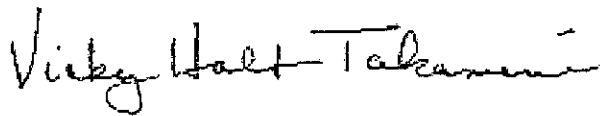
can be established at either Kapi'olani Park or Magic Island. We are reaching out to the Bishop Museum and the Honolulu Art Museum to host events on their grounds and at Thomas Square. Most of these events will be free and open to residents and visitors for the entire two weeks of the festival.

The idea of a Festival of Pacific Arts was conceived by the Conference of the South Pacific Commission (now the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, SPC) in an attempt to combat the erosion of traditional customary practices. Since 1972, delegations from 27 Pacific Island Nations and Territories have come together to share and exchange their cultures at each Pacific Arts Festival. A delegation of 2,500 performers, artists and cultural practitioners is expected, in addition to thousands of visitors from around the world.

The 27 Pacific Island Countries and Territories expected at the festival are: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Easter Island, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji Islands, French Polynesia, Guam (2016 Host), Hawaii, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Norfolk Island, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Wallis and Futuna.

We also strongly support funding for the Kaka'ako Art Gallery and Performing Arts Center which is an integral part of the Ola Ka 'Ilima Artspace affordable live/work space for low-income artists and their families in Honolulu.. We know that this facility will be a space that will support and strengthen the arts community in central Honolulu, provide space for the youth, residents and visitors of Honolulu to gather to exchange ideas and create new works and a space where Native Hawaiian artists and cultural practitioners can share and celebrate the rich cultural heritage that makes Hawai'i unique,

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vicky Holt Takamine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Vicky" being the most prominent.

Vicky Holt Takamine
Administrator, Hawaiian Arts Administration
Executive Director, PA'I Foundation
904 Kohou St. #102
Honolulu, HI 96817
vicky@paifoundation.org
vicky@hawaiianartsadmin.org
808-754-2301

PA'I Board

Pres. Kawika McKeague

V. Pres. Mokihana Benavente

Sec. Alison Hartle

Treas. Lucinda Lau

Board Carol Lau-Tritz

**Hawaiian Arts Administration
Board**

Mapuana de Silva

Robert Cazimero

Ivy Maile Andrade

Michael Pili Pang

Aaron Sala

Monte McComber

Kaleo Manuel